

Childminder report

Inspection date:

3 February 2022

Overall effectiveness

Outstanding

The quality of education

Outstanding

Behaviour and attitudes

Outstanding

Personal development

Outstanding

Leadership and management

Outstanding

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children show that they feel completely safe and relaxed in the care of this dedicated and inspirational childminder and her assistant. All children quickly become deeply involved in their self-chosen play. They develop impressive levels of self-confidence and self-esteem. Without exception, the childminder responds with great interest and enthusiasm to children's ideas and attempts to communicate. Babies babble happily as the childminder teaches them the to-and-fro nature of conversations. All children develop outstanding communication skills.

The childminder skilfully supports children's consistently good behaviour. Children take excellent care of their toys. They spontaneously help to tidy up when they have finished an activity. The childminder gives children sharply focused praise and support as they happily discuss how they are making room for more play. Children learn excellent hygiene skills, such as frequent handwashing. They independently access the bathroom and sing their handwashing song twice as they check with the childminder to see if all the germs have gone. Children are kind and considerate, they are expertly taught to respect each other's learning and play. For example, when a child wants to build with blocks, she moves behind the childminder, who skilfully diverts other children, so that she has space to build in peace.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- The childminder skilfully threads a rich variety of words through her playful interactions with children. Children snuggle in to share books that the childminder and her assistant read with gusto and expression. The childminder takes time to highlight every detail and link it to other learning. Children develop a fascination with books and language that excellently prepares them for later learning.
- The childminder teaches children to confidently and independently assess their learning. For instance, after building a structure out of arched bricks, a child sits back and reviews her creation, making adjustments until she is satisfied. She is immensely proud of her work.
- The childminder intentionally introduces mathematical concepts to children. She encourages them to consider why it is tricky to stack two round oranges, names shapes, notices numbers and counts with children at every opportunity. Children are immensely confident in using their early mathematical skills.
- The childminder gathers excellent information from parents and uses this to plan immediately for children's well-being and learning. She checks continuously what children have learned and remembered, such as which animals they have seen at the farm. When the childminder forgets, children delight in reminding her that they saw alpacas. They continuously rehearse and build on what they know and can do.

- Partnerships with parents are incredibly secure. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the childminder introduced effective measures that built trusting relationships. She has implemented home visits, play dates in the park, and invited children and their families to her home on days she is not working. Parents are thrilled by their children's progress. They greatly appreciate the childminder's support.
- The childminder provides extensive opportunities for children to develop their physical skills and be healthy. For instance, as children squeeze juice out of oranges, she supports them to press down hard on the juicer, noticing the effort involved and how they need to brace their shoulders. Children carefully pour the juice into their own cups and discuss all the healthy vitamins it gives them. They learn impressive skills that will help them live healthy lives.
- The childminder meticulously plans the richest possible experience of themes, such as Chinese New Year. For example, children learn about which animal represents their birthday, they compare their animals and are keen to check those of visitors. Children explore Chinese culture through music and dance, and investigate tigers, as it is the year of the tiger. Children explore what they have learned as they independently make buildings that represent the Chinese buildings they have seen. They embed important lessons about other cultures in an age appropriate way, and are excellently prepared for life in modern Britain.
- The childminder provides precise support for her assistant. They discuss children's development daily and she gives him clear and precise guidance that ensures he understands how to implement her curriculum.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder and her assistant demonstrate a secure understanding of safeguarding. The childminder has a comprehensive safeguarding policy and procedures that are thoroughly audited and well understood by her and her assistant. Records of children's pre-existing injuries are thoroughly investigated and monitored over time for anything that might indicate that a child is at risk of harm. The childminder and her assistant are vigilant regarding wider safeguarding risks, such as radicalisation and county lines. The childminder and her assistant demonstrate a determination to report any allegations that an adult in their home has harmed a child and to follow guidance from the relevant authorities.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY265657
Local authority	Southend-on-Sea
Inspection number	10137483
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children at time of inspection	0 to 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Date of previous inspection	3 June 2015

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2003. She operates term time from 7.30am to 4.30pm, Monday to Thursday, except for bank holidays and family holidays, agreed in advance. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. She works with an assistant.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Terrie Simpson

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The childminder spoke to the inspector about their intentions for children's learning.
- Children showed the inspector about what they enjoy doing while with the childminder.
- The childminder showed the inspector the premises and discussed how they ensure they are safe and suitable.
- The childminder and inspector discussed how the curriculum had been implemented and the impact that this had on children's learning.
- The childminder provided the inspector with a sample of key documentation on request.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

If you are not happy with the inspection or the report, you can [complain to Ofsted](#).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

This publication is available at <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2022